

CHRISTINE WRIGHT

North Side of Cartland Road to Dad's Lane

The Pineapple Estate was built as council housing in the 1930s, on the site of Pineapple Farm. I was amused by a comment on a Birmingham forum:

“Our Aunty Alice Got a new house on the newly built Pineapple Estate In the 1930s. We went to see her a few months after she had moved in. The airs & graces had gone on by then she had become a proper Mrs Bucket by then. Sorry i mean Mrs Bouquet i suppose you could understand it a bit because that new house was rotten posh to the one she'd come from in balsall heath.”

The two bedroomed houses were built in red brick, some semi-detached, others in rows of four. The estate has roads and crescents leading off the main Pineapple Road, and cul de sacs with houses round a circular green At each junction the corners are cut on both sides by setting the houses on the diagonal, giving a wide sense of space. These diagonal houses are in a group of four with a triangular feature in the centre.

There is a wide grassed area in the front of the Church of the Ascension. This is a 1960s building, after the previous church was destroyed by fire.

Since the 'right to buy' in the 1980s, many houses have become privately owned, and the owners have made their own mark on the houses. Some have been rendered or have stone cladding, others have had porch extensions and new windows or solar panels. Some still have a front garden, but many have been converted to hard surfaces for parking.

The Camp Hill railway line forms the East border of the estate. Construction of a new Pineapple Road Railway Station is currently underway, with a completion date of 2023. (This is on the site of a previous station which was in use from 1903 to 1941.) This station will enable Pineapple residents to travel North to Kings Heath and on to Birmingham New Street station, and South to Kings Norton and beyond to Hereford.
